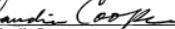


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: John Howard et al. Examiner: Tran, Tongoc
Serial No.: 10/817,154 Group Art Unit: 2134
Filed: 04/01/2004 Docket No.: 14917.0465US01/MS304553.01
Title: AUTHENTICATION BROKER SERVICE

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being filed electronically with the U.S. Patent Office on December 23, 2008.

By: 
Name: Claudia Cooper

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The Applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 1-43 in the subject application by the Examiner with appreciation. The Applicant notes that the Examiner did not attach a Statement of Reasons for Allowance to the Notice of Allowance dated September 30, 2008. Even so, the Applicant does not necessarily acquiesce or agree in any manner as to previous comments made by the Examiner regarding what the prior art does or does not teach. In addition, the Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's prior statements to the extent that any comment is intended or has the effect of limiting a claim scope, explicitly or implicitly, by not reciting verbatim the respective claim language, or is intended or has the effect of limiting a claim scope by stating or implying that all the reasons for patentability are in any way fully enumerated.

Further reasons for allowance beyond those mentioned in any Office Action by the Examiner are described and set forth in the Applicant's Specification. The Examiner's reasons

for allowance are not expressly stated and, in any case, do not establish an estoppel against the Applicant seeking and obtaining allowance of additional, broader claims in a continuation application, which the Applicant reserves the right to file.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 23, 2008



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